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REMARKS

The non-final Office Action mailed February 16, 2006, rejected all pending claims 1-18. In response, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 10. Accordingly, claims 1-18 remain pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the amendments and the following remarks. In addition, Applicants note the filing of a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement on March 31, 2006, and ask that the references cited therein be considered.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,615,253 (Bowman-Amuah). Of these, claims 1 and 10 are independent. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 10, as amended, each define subject matter that is patentable over Bowman-Amuah.

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to a method of generating an electronic report from a list view displaying data objects that each comprise a plurality of fields and corresponding attributes for the fields. The method includes receiving a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed fields. The method also includes generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report, the tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field. The method further includes launching the external reporting application and generating the tabulated report using the launched external reporting application. The tabulated report comprises the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field.

In contrast, Bowman-Amuah discloses a system for retrieving data from a server for execution of client-side applications. See Bowman-Amuah title; see also Office Action p. 3. While the Office Action does not expressly state that Bowman-Amuah discloses all elements of Applicants' claim 1 except for "launching the external reporting application," this is the only feature of Applicants' claim 1 that the Office Action states would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Applicants understand this to mean that the Office Action's contention

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is that Bowman-Amuah discloses all features of Applicants' claim 1 except for "launching the external reporting application." Applicants disagree.

Bowman-Amuah fails to disclose or suggest a method as set forth in Applicants' claim 1, that includes receiving a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed fields, generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field, and generating the tabulated report using a launched external reporting application, wherein the tabulated report comprises the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field, as required by Applicants' claim 1.

The Office Action does not address the significant differences from the cited reference, but rather takes addresses individual claim limitations out of context. In particular, the Office Action notes that Bowman-Amuah discloses various types of reports, see Office Action p. 3. However, the Bowman-Amuah reports cited by the Office Action are very different from the report required by Applicants' claim 1. For instance, Bowman-Amuah discloses a report execution component (2902) that is the "core of the reporting application framework." See Bowman-Amuah Fig. 29 and col. 110, lines 32-36. This report execution component (2902) formats the report using "standard headers, column headings, row headings, and other static report information." See Bowman-Amuah col. 110, lines 37-40 (emphasis added). Reports including standard headers and headings and other static information are different from the report required by Applicants' claim 1. Moreover, the Bowman-Amuah formatting of the reports with these features is different from the output file generation of Applicants' claim 1. The Bowman-Amuah report execution component (2902) then initiates a report distribution function to distribute the report to specified printers, disks, and individuals. See Bowman-Amuah col. 110, lines 50-53. This is markedly different than generating a report for an external reporting application, as required by Applicants' claim 1.

The Office Action also cites Fig. 31 of Bowman-Amuah. See Office Action p. 4. Bowman-Amuah's Fig. 31 and accompanying discussion does not disclose or suggest an external reporting application or an output file or launching an external reporting application and

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generating a report using the launched external reporting application, as required by independent claim 1, and instead involves generating a report to be printed on a printer. See Bowman-Amuah col. 112, lines 25-33. Moreover, Bowman-Amuah's Fig. 31 and accompanying discussion does not disclose or suggest receiving a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed fields, as required by Applicants' claim 1.

As the Office Action notes, Bowman-Amuah does disclose user interfaces that allow users to query databases for lists of data and to select a particular entry. See Office Action p. 4; see also Bowman-Amuah Fig. 96 and col. 227, lines 35-40. However, Bowman-Amuah's Figs. 96-97 and accompanying discussion concern database querying. See Bowman-Amuah Figs 96-97 and col. 227, lines 28-55. This discussion in Bowman-Amuah is wholly unrelated to receiving a user selection of at least one object field and generating an output file and a report with attributes corresponding to the at least one object field, as required by Applicants' claim 1. Indeed, reports, reporting applications, external reporting applications, and the like are not mentioned in connection with the discussion of Bowman-Amuah's Figs. 96 and 97.

The Office Action acknowledges that Bowman-Amuah fails to disclose launching an external reporting application, as required by Applicants' claim 1. See Office Action p. 4. Applicants submit that Bowman-Amuah does not use an external reporting application, and thus agree with the Office Action that Bowman-Amuah does not disclose launching such an application. The Office Action contends, nevertheless, that launching an external reporting application would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, and cites as motivation the Bowman-Amuah statements that external reporting applications "typically retrieve information from more data sources than bundled report writers, and are also capable of creating reports from several data sources simultaneously." See Office Action p. 4; see also Bowman-Amuah col. 47, lines 44-48.

Applicants submit that these contentions miss the mark. As described above, it is not merely the launching of an external recording application that Bowman-Amuah fails to disclose or suggest. Bowman-Amuah fails to disclose or suggest receiving a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed fields, launching an external reporting application, and generating a

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report using the launched external reporting application, wherein the report includes attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field, as required by Applicants' claim 1. At most, the cited Bowman-Amuah statements merely highlight advantages of using external reporting applications. That is not enough. Again, Applicants' claim 1 requires launching an external reporting application and generating a report using the launched external reporting application, wherein the report includes information related to at least one user-selected object field.

Therefore, for at least the reasons described above, independent claim 1 defines subject matter that is patentable over Bowman-Amuah, as do dependant claims 2-9. Thus, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections on claims 1-9.

Claim 10 is directed to a computer-readable medium with program instructions stored thereon that when executed perform method of claim 1. For the reasons previously discussed in connection with claim 1, independent claim 10 is similarly patentable over Bowman-Amuah, as are dependant claims 11-18. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Office remove its rejections to these claims.

Conclusions

Applicants submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance. In addition, Applicants ask that the Office consider the references cited in Applicant's Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed March 31, 2006.

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the

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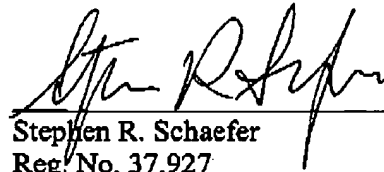
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amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicants submit that no fees are due for this Amendment. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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